

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Immediately following the title, please insert the following:

Claim for Priority

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/317,426, filed December 12, 2002.

Please amend paragraph [0025] as follows:

[0025] FIGURE 3 is a perspective view of another printer apparatus 310 according to an alternative embodiment of the present invention. Printer apparatus 310 includes first, second, and third print media trays 301, 302, and 303, respectively, each of which can accommodate print media. In general, each of the trays can accommodate plural sizes of sheets of print media. In the exemplary embodiment, a single record reader, namely reader 22, is provided with printer apparatus 310. A switch ~~340 connected to a knob 340~~ can be set to one of the positions designated 1, 2, or 3, to thereby identify a corresponding one of trays 301, 302, or 303 as being the one to which the card read by reader 22 pertains. The operator selects the appropriate tray into which print media is to be loaded, and sets the switch 340 to the appropriate setting. When the associated readable record is furnished to record reader 22, the signals which are generated, relating to at least one characteristic of the print media, are transferred to print engine controller 21 for configuring the device by controlling or adjusting as appropriate the various parameters of the print engine 20 when the print media in the selected drawer is accessed by the print engine 20.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 11-21 without prejudice and add new claims 22-29.

1. (Original) A package of print media, comprising:
at least one sheet of print media for imaging thereon, enclosed within a protective packaging; and
a machine readable medium accompanying said print media and packaging and including machine readable characteristics of said print media, the machine readable medium separable from both the print media and packaging.
2. (Original) A package according to claim 1, wherein said machine readable medium includes characteristics of said print media which are of use in configuring an imaging device based on said characteristics to form an image on the at least one sheet of print media.
3. (Original) A package according to claim 1, wherein said machine readable medium is disposed between said print media and said protective packaging during transport.
4. (Original) A package according to claim 1, wherein said machine readable medium includes an electronically readable medium.
5. (Original) A package according to claim 4, wherein said electronically readable medium comprises a smart card.
6. (Original) A package according to claim 1, wherein said machine readable medium includes an optically readable medium.
7. (Original) A package according to claim 6, wherein said optically readable medium comprises a card bearing contrasting markings.
8. (Original) A package according to claim 7, wherein said contrasting markings comprise one of bar and circle codes.

9. (Original) A package according to claim 1, wherein said machine readable medium includes a human-readable portion bearing information relating to at least one characteristic of said print media.

10. (Original) A package according to claim 1, wherein said at least one sheet comprises a plurality of sheets of a given type of media.

11-21. Cancelled

22. (New) The package of claim 1, wherein the at least one sheet of print media is removable from the package upon opening of the protective packaging enclosing the at least one sheet.

23. (New) The package of claim 1, wherein the protective packaging encloses the machine readable medium during transport of the package.

24. (New) The package of claim 1, wherein the protective packaging comprises an envelope.

25. (New) The package of claim 1, wherein the at least one sheet of print media is separate from the packaging and the machine readable medium during the printing operation.

26. (New) A package of print media, comprising:
a plurality of sheets of print media for imaging thereon,
a protective packaging enclosing said plurality of sheets of print media; and
a machine readable medium accompanying said print media and packaging during transport, and including machine readable characteristics of said print media, the machine readable medium separable from both the print media and packaging so as to be used at a location physically remote from the print media and packaging.

27. (New) The package of claim 26, wherein the plurality of sheets of print media are removable from the package upon opening of the protective packaging enclosing the plurality of sheets.

28. (New) The package of claim 26, wherein the protective packaging comprises an envelope.

29. (New) The package of claim 26, wherein the plurality of sheets of print media are separate from the packaging and the machine readable medium during the printing operation.